n the Army, Air Force and Navy are of late joining political parties with communal background;

(b) if so. what is the reaction of Government in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to amend the Army, Air Force and Naval laws so as to debar the senior officers to join political parties after their retirement; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Government are aware that a number of retired Defence Services personnel have joined political parties. After retirement a former Defence Services personnel has the right to join any political party of his choice.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to amend the Army Act, the Navy Act and the Air Force Act to debar retired Defence Services Personnel from joining political parties.

Involvement of a DG/ with the Terrorist Cell

1528. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in June this year, the CBI caught red-handed its own DIG dealing with terrorist cell, and launched investigation on charges of corruption and other offences, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the DIG was also found to be financing various terrorist out-fits in the country;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in course of the investigation the DIG's Bank Lockers at Jaipur were opened recently where Gold bars and foreign currency in huge quantity were found to the concealed; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the DIG has been pu under suspension, if not, the reason; therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUB LIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION! (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes Sir. Cases under the Prevention o: Corruption Act, 1988 and the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act have been registered against him and investiga tion is in progress.

(b) No, Sir. Nothing has come to notice so far.

(c) A locker in the joint name o: Shri & Smt. O. P. Sharma was go opened at Jaipur. Besides cash c Rs. 3 lakhs, gold ornaments weighing about 874.020 gms and fixed deposi receipts worth Rs. 36,100/- were rounc therein. No foreign currency wa found in the locker.

(d) Yes, Sir. Shri O. P. Sharm has been placed under suspension.

Complaints of HMT workers migrated from Kashmir

1529. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN Will the PRIME MINISTER to pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are awan of the complaints of HMT worker migrated from Kashmir to Bangalon and Tumkur; and

(b) if so, what are the detail; thereof and action taken by Govern ment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHR P. K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) Som(of the employees of HMT's Srinaga watch unit, who had migrated fron there, have represented to HMT regarding their salary, increments ant promotions in the units in which they have been temporarily accommodated

The migrant employees have been posted in different units of HMT or a temporary transfer basis on the condition that as and when the posi tion improves, they would returr

back to the Srinagar unit. Their salary and increments have been protected.

आकाशवाणी और दूरदर्शन पर धर्म-निरपेक्षता

1530. **श्री मौलाना अबदुल्ला खान आजमी :** क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उन धार्मिक कार्यक्रमों का ब्यौरा क्या है जो नियमित रूप से आकाशवाणी और दूरदर्शन से प्रसारित किये जा रहे हैं और क्या यह धर्म-निरपेक्षता की भावना के अनुरूप हैं ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि अनेक प्रमुख धर्मों की उपेक्षा की जा रही है और यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं;

(ग) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान कौन-कौन से धार्मिक कार्यक्रम प्रसारित किये गये; और

(घ) नीतियों को धर्मनिरपेक्षता के अनुरूप बनाने के लिए क्या प्रयास किये जा रहे हैं ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (कुमारी गिरिजा व्यास) : (क) से (ग) इलैक्ट्रोनिक मीडिया का यह निरंतर प्रयास रहता है कि सभी धर्मों में समानता को उजागर किया जाए ताकि लोगों के मन में धर्मनिरपेक्षता अर्थात् सभी धर्मों के प्रति समान आदर की भावना पैदा की जा सके। आकाशवाणी और दूरदर्शन सभी पारंपरिक भारतीय उत्सवों की व्यापक कवरेज करते हैं। प्रतिष्ठित व्यक्तियों की मृत्यु पर सरकारी शोक की घोषणा किए जाने की स्थिति में आकाशवाणी और दूरदर्शन द्वारा सभी के धर्मग्रंथों से पाठ प्रसारित किया जाता है। नीति के अनुसार, आकाशवाणी और दूरदर्शन किसी धर्म विशेष का प्रचार नहीं करते हैं।

(घ) आकाशवाणी और दूरदर्शन द्वारा प्रसारित किए जाने वाले कार्यक्रम हमेशा धर्मनिरपेक्षता की भावना के अनुरूप होते हैं।

Integrated Development Programmes for Western Ghats

1531. SHRI J- P- JAVALI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Karnataka Government had represented in 1990 for consideration of additional 18 more talukas under the Integrated Development Programme for Western Ghat region in the Districts of Dhar-war, Chimoga, Hassan, Uttara Kan-nada Chickmagahim, Dakshina Kan-nada and Mysore; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to take a decision on similar demand from many other States, an Expert Group on Delineation of new bill areas was constituted by the Planning Commission. The recommendations of the Expert Group await the decision of Full Planning Commission/National Development Council.

Retrenchment of workers in Mining and Allied Machineries Corporation Ltd.

1532. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to retrench 1700 workers of Mining and Allied Machineries Corporation Ltd. at Durgapur;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have any scheme to improve the situation at the factory; and